

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEAE-00 OMB-01 /088 W

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P R 231800Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6800

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

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USCINCEUR AND CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLADS ALSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MO, SS, SP, MR, AG

SUBJECT: SAHARA ROUNDUP

1. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY: PRESS PLAYED PROMINENTLY ASST. SECY
ATHERTON'S OCT 22 MEETING WITH KING. SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS OCT 23
CONTINUED TO CARRY ON FRONT PAGE THE OPTIMISTIC REMARKS
OF SPECIAL SPANISH ENVOY SOLIS FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO MADRID.
MEANWHILE GOVERNMENT NEWS AGENCY MAP ANNOUNCED OCT 23
THAT FONMIN LARAKI HAD JUST RETURNED FROM NEW YORK
FOR CONSULTATIONS AND HAD MET IMMEDIATELY WITH KING IN
MARRAKECH SAME MORNING.

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2. QATAR, IRAQ, AND KUWAIT WERE ADDED TO THE LIST OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE DECLARED IN SUPPORT OF MOROCCO'S SAHARA STAND.

3. SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS OCT 23 CARRIED SHORT AFP ITEM DATED ALGIERS SAYING THAT RAILROAD TRAFFIC BETWEEN MOROCCO AND ALGIERS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE WEDNESDAY. NO REASON WAS GIVEN FOR REPORTED SUSPENSION, BUT IT PROBABLY RELATES TO FACT THAT MOROCCAN RAILROADS ALL COMMANDEERED TO MOVE AND PROVISION MARCHERS. NO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC MOVING.

4. KING'S OCTOBER 23 SPEECH TO SAHARANS: IN SHORT 16 MINUTE SPEECH DIRECTED AT SAHARA POPULATION, KING JUSTIFIED MOROCCO'S CLAIMS IN TERMS OF HISTORICAL "ALLEGIANCE" SAHARA PEOPLE TO MOROCCAN THRONE. KING, IN SPEECH HEAVILY LADEN WITH QUOTATIONS FROM THE KORAN, CALLED ON SAHARANS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS TO RETURN TO FOLD, ASSURING THEM COMPLETE FORGIVENESS. SPEECH, WHICH WAS DEVOID OF ANY THREATS, SEEMED TO INDICATE THAT THE KING INTENDS TO MOVE AHEAD WITH PLANS TO CONDUCT PEACEFUL MARCH, ALTHOUGH NO DATES WERE MENTIONED.

5. MISCELLANEOUS: SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS REPORTED THAT AS OF OCT 22 THERE WERE OVER 700,000 VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MARCH...MINISTER OF INFORMATION CLAIMED THAT MORE THAN 350 NEWSMEN ARE CURRENTLY IN MOROCCO.
NEUMANN

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